

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 6, lines 14-21 please delete the current paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

•In the drawings:

Fig. 1 shows a schematic view of a control system to which the invention is directed;

Fig. 2 shows the information flow during polling between the control station and the control units;

Fig. 3 shows the flow of information that is substantially more advantageous by means of transferring the status determination (polling) of a slave to a control unit with master capability;

Figs. 4 and 5 show a flowchart from the perspective of a "control unit with master capability" (3, 4); and

Fig. 6 shows a flowchart from the perspective of a "control station 1".~